CareerFocus™

A Community Resource for Employment, Education and Enrichment
Spring/Summer 2011
Volume 14 • Issue 1

Blended classes work for Candace Werner

Online and on campus
THE PERFECT BLEND

ONLINE CLASSES
Expand options for busy students

CREATIVE JOBS aren't just for artists

Attitude Check
Don't be a downer at work

Be SMART: Choose TRANSFER
Big dreams start here

Job Search Support Groups
Work together to find work

Get the College Benefit
A better career and a better life

Do You Really Know Yourself?
Assess your assets *THEN* choose a career

Washtenaw Community College

UNITED WAY AT WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY

EMILY

Emily is a mother of two and while attending WCC's nursing program she struggled to make ends meet. She is a single parent and her children are ages two and four. They attend an excellent childcare center in Saline, but Emily needed help with her high child care costs. Through United Way support of Childcare Network, Emily received a partial childcare scholarship, making quality child care affordable. This has allowed Emily to concentrate on her clinical work and successfully graduate.

Last year, United Way provided $55,000 in child care scholarships to help families like Emily's. Last year 38 children from 23 families attended high quality child care programs.

100% of families that received child care scholarship report a reduction in family stress. Parents remain employed and able to concentrate on their careers while their children are in safe, stable and nurturing child care environments.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Last year over 56 applications for scholarship were left unfunded due to a lack of resources. Your donation will help more children in Washtenaw County get a good start in life.

MARIANNE

Marianne is an 86 year-old woman who contacted a senior-serving agency for help getting to her doctor appointments. The agency asked her to complete a short wellness assessment and discovered multiple issues including deteriorating health, living in a home with no water or electricity, and no local family support.

Marianne was a perfect candidate for the Senior Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP). With the support of other United Way funded senior serving agencies, a case management plan was developed that helped stabilize her situation quickly.

SCIP partner agencies meet every two weeks to monitor progress of each case, to problem solve, and to come up with creative approaches to the increasingly serious problems of Washtenaw County seniors.

The number of seniors, aged 85+, needing long term services has grown by more than 36%. Your donation will help more seniors in Washtenaw County to seek and receive help.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

JOE & LISA

Parents, Joe and Lisa work extremely hard to provide food for their two children. In these tough times, it is nearly impossible for them to afford fresh produce to increase the nutritional value of their meals. This has the potential to put their children at a disadvantage when it comes to brain development and physical growth.

After learning that fresh produce is available through their neighborhood food pantry, thanks to Food Gatherers, Joe and Lisa have been able to promote healthy living and teach their children the benefits of good nutrition.

Washtenaw County's Food Security Plan reports only 13% of survey respondents eat the recommended daily servings of fruits and vegetables and they cited that access to these foods was limited because of cost.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The 2010 Hunger in America report shows 138% increase in the number of people needing food. Your donation will help feed more hungry individuals and families in Washtenaw County.

Your one gift to United Way supports programs that alleviate hunger; provide housing to the homeless; help children, youth, and seniors; and assist the uninsured and underinsured with medical and dental needs. Contact United Way of Washtenaw County at 734.971.8200 or www.uwWashtenaw.org for more information and to give.

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. LIVE UNITED®

Questions about the WCC programs and services described in this publication should be directed to the Office of Admissions at 734-973-3543. Comments or questions about the publication itself can be directed to WCC Public Relations and Marketing Services at 734-973-3704.

To advertise in CareerFocus call 734-973-3360.

Publisher: ..... Larry L. Whitworth, ... *President, Washtenaw Community College*
Executive Editor: ..... Cathy J. Smillie, *Executive Director of Public Relations and Marketing*
Editor: ..... Laura L. Crawford
Contributing Writers: ..... Laura L. Crawford, Kim Kachadoorian, Anita LeBlanc, James Militzer, Eleanor Shelton, Cathy J. Smillie, Margaret Steen
Creative Director/Graphic Designer: ..... Julie Tanguay
Photography, cover student: ..... IDT, Steve and Patti Constable
Photography, profiles: ..... Jakob Skogheim
Production Assistance: ..... Angela Law-Hill
Regional Advertising Sales: ..... Rose Bailey
Mailing Fulfillment: ..... Angela Law-Hill, Martin Thomas

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CareerFocus™

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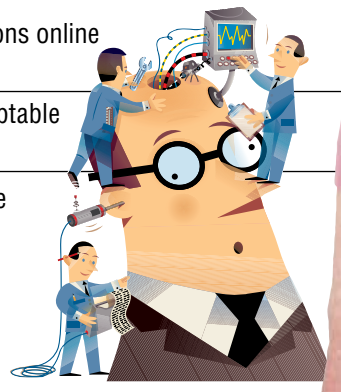

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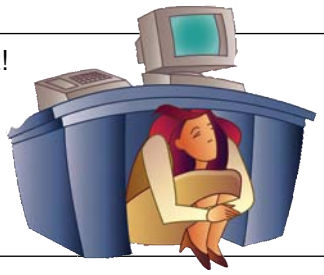

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Facts AND Finds

We're Number 12! We're Number 12!

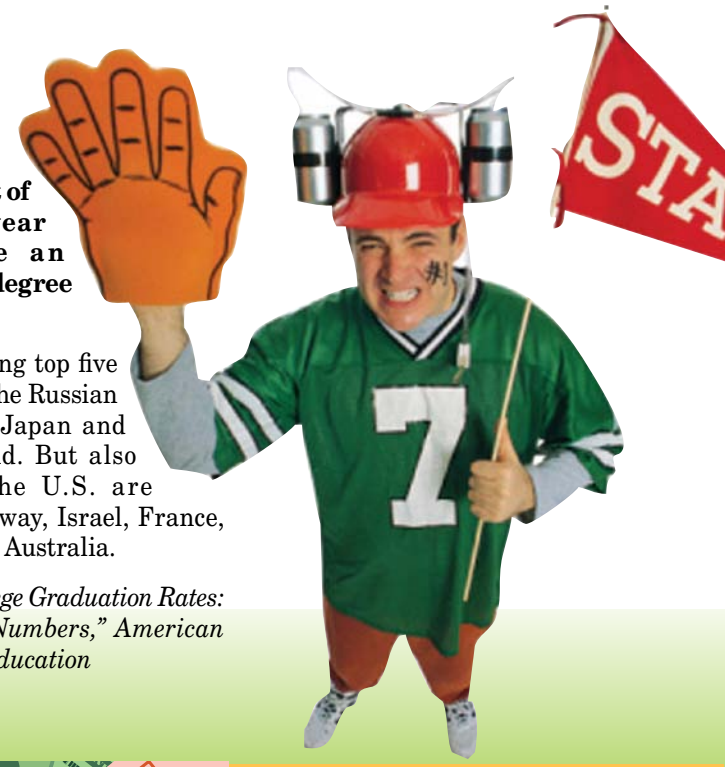
It used to be that the U.S. had bragging rights to the best-educated workforce in the world, but no more. Since the 1980s the country has fallen to 12th place in the percentage of the population with a college education.

Today just 40.4 percent of Americans age 25- to 34-years-old have an associate's degree or higher.

The most educated country in the world is our northern neighbor Canada, where 55.8 percent of 25- to 34-year olds have an associate's degree or higher.

The remaining top five are Korea, The Russian Federation, Japan and New Zealand. But also ahead of the U.S. are Ireland, Norway, Israel, France, Belgium and Australia.

Source: "College Graduation Rates: Behind the Numbers," American Council on Education



Student Debt Continues to Rise

The cost of a college education has been rising faster than inflation for decades, but some colleges are better bargains than others–so would-be students should shop carefully. A college education doesn't have to include loads of student loan debt.

According to a November 2010 survey by the Pew Research Center, college students are taking on more debt than ever and private, for-profit colleges, which tend to charge more than publicly supported community colleges and universities, are one of the reasons for the increase.

Students who attend for-profit colleges are more likely than other students to borrow, and they typically borrow larger amounts.

At private colleges (for-profit and non-profit) about 25% of certificate and associate's degree students borrowed more than $20,000. Only 5% of comparable public college students borrowed that much.

In 2008, 60% of all graduates borrowed for their education, compared with 52% in 1996.

The average loan for a bachelor's degree was more than $23,000 in 2008, compared with $17,000 in 1996.

24% of 2008 bachelor's degree graduates at for-profit schools borrowed more than $40,000, compared with 5% of graduates at public institutions and 14% at private not-for-profit schools.

Source: "The Rise of College Student Borrowing" pewsocialtrends.org

Is Retirement a Thing of the Past?

As the first wave of America's 77 million baby boomers reaches the official retirement age of 65, it remains to be seen if they'll kick back or keep working.

The closer they get to retirement age, the fewer boomers expect to take advantage of it. Just 15 percent of employed boomers turning 65 this year say they expect to retire by age 65, while 27 percent say they plan to retire between age 66 and 69, and 29 percent say they won't leave the workplace until age 70 or older.

But back when today's 65-year-olds were a mere 60 years old, 66 percent of them thought they'd be retired by now.

Surprisingly, even younger workers think it's a good idea for boomers to keep working.

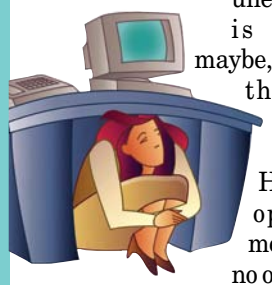
In a recent Marist poll, 71 percent of younger Americans thought that boomers should stay on the job until well into their 70s.

Although more boomers on the job means fewer job openings for younger workers, older workers are concerned that they won't have enough income to retire comfortably and younger workers are concerned that retiring boomers could strain the Social Security and Medicare systems.

Sources:
"Most Want Boomers to Keep Working in Golden Years," marketwatch.com

"Boomers Take the Retire Out of Retirement," npr.org

Is It a Recovery Yet?



The good news about employment is growing: Job offers are up, unemployment is down and maybe, just maybe, the economy has turned a corner. However, the optimism is measured and no one is predicting boom times around the corner.

Some of the trends that point to a recovery are:

- **52 percent of Americans are optimistic that the economy will improve this year** while just 25 percent believe it will get worse and 21 percent believe it will stay the same.

  Source: "Looking at 2011 Economy, Optimists Double Pessimists," gallup.com

- Job creation is up across the country. The beleaguered Midwest, where unemployment reached double digits, now leads the rest of the nation in percentage of jobs created with **32 percent of Midwestern employers reporting that they are hiring.**

  Source: "Midwest Leads December U.S. Job Creation; East and West Trail," gallup.com

- Indeed Inc. and the *Wall Street Journal* reported that the number of **U.S. job postings on the Internet rose to 4.7 million in December 2010** up from 2.7 million just a year earlier.

  Source: "Job Offers Rising as Economy Warms Up," online.wsj.com

- *USA Today* and Moody's Analytics predicts an overall **1.9 percent increase in jobs nationwide for 2011.**

  Source: "Jobs Rebound Will be Slow," usatoday.com

No Limit to Creativity

Artists aren't the only ones using imagination and innovation at work

By James Militzer

It's the classic career dilemma for creative people. You love creative work, but aren't sure you have what it takes to make a career out of it–and the "starving artist" lifestyle doesn't appeal to you. How can you find a career that nurtures your creative side, but also lets you make a living?

"Don't define creativity so narrowly," says Margaret Lobenstine, career coach and author of *The Renaissance Soul*. "If you think that creativity is just whether you can paint, sing or act, then you're not going to get anywhere unless you have talent in painting, singing or acting. But if you are a creative person, you're a problem solver, because you see the world in a new way–and that applies to many fields."

Here are five careers that offer good salaries, abundant jobs–and boundless opportunities to put your creative talents to work.

"If you are a creative person, you're a problem solver, because you see the world in a new way–and that applies to many fields."

DESIGN

If you've got aesthetic skills, magazines and factories might be better venues for your work than museums and art galleries. Careers in applied arts like graphic or industrial design are plentiful, well-paid, and just as creative as their fine-arts counterparts, says Carol Eikleberry, career counselor and author of *The Career Guide for Creative and Unconventional People*. "You need to be practical as well as aesthetic, but you still get to be creative with visual information and three dimensional thinking."

Education:
Most design-related fields require anywhere from an associate's to a bachelor's degree, though a master's will make you more employable.

Outlook:
The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) predicts that jobs in graphic design and commercial/industrial design will experience steady growth this decade, while interior design jobs will grow faster than average. Median annual wages are $42,400 for graphic designers, $44,950 for interior designers, and $57,350 for commercial and industrial designers.

TEACHING

Teaching offers plenty of opportunities to flex your creative muscles, from the problem-solving abilities required to plan a lesson, to the performance skills needed to present it. And you'll use these skills even if you don't teach a creative art. As Lobenstine puts it, "A third grade teacher might not be able to draw or sing on key, but she can be one of the most creative people in the world."

Education:
Most teaching positions require a bachelor's degree plus licensure.

Outlook:
The BLS predicts steady growth in the demand for kindergarten, elementary, middle and secondary school teachers, with average salaries ranging from $47,100 to $51,180.

CONSULTING

As Eikleberry puts it, "Work that involves synthesizing complex information tends to be highly creative, and it offers a great opportunity for self expression." Whether it involves designing clients' business plans or budgets, or advising them on how to improve worker productivity, consulting fits that description. The BLS also projects it to be this decade's fastest-growing industry.

Education:
Entry-level positions require a bachelor's at minimum, and higher positions often require an MBA.

Outlook:
Employment in management, scientific and technical consulting services is projected to grow by 83 percent between 2008 and 2018. Annual pay for salaried workers averages almost $50,000 – with self-employed consultants often earning much more.

COMPUTER SOFTWARE ENGINEERING

Like consulting, software engineering often involves creative problem solving as many programs are developed to address specific business needs or organizational challenges. But some software, like video games, can require as much aesthetic creativity as any fine art.

Education:
A bachelor's degree is required for most jobs, with graduate degrees preferred for more complex positions.

Outlook:
The BLS projects that employment of computer software engineers will increase by 32 percent from 2008-2018–much faster than the average. Median annual pay for computer software engineers ranges from $85,430 to $92,430.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Besides letting you build a career around your creative interests, running your own business can involve a vast array of creative secondary tasks. As Lobenstine puts it, "I ran a bed and breakfast for ten years. That required me to be a chef, a gardener, a storyteller, an interior decorator, a publicist–there were so many pieces to it that required creativity. We tend to think that a job requires one label, but if your work includes many ways to be creative, it can be more satisfying."

Education:
A degree in a relevant field may not be necessary for all businesses–but it can't hurt. Business management classes are also a plus.

Outlook:
Pay and job opportunities vary wildly for entrepreneurs. But with hard work, persistence and an active market for their products or services, business owners can earn far more than practically any other job holder. CF

Be Smart: Choose Transfer

Big dreams don't have to start with a big budget

By Laura L. Crawford

Why should you attend a two-year college like WCC if your goal is a four-year degree?

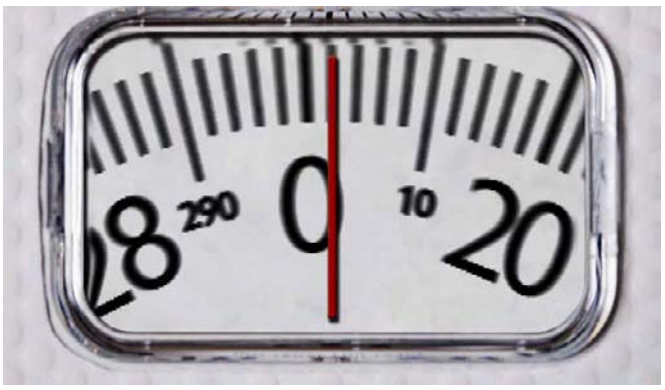
Because low cost and high quality add up to one smart choice.

As the price of an education climbs and the value of a college degree increases, more students are realizing that completing the first two years of their degree at a community college is a wise decision.

Reason one: save money

Sure it makes sense to invest in an education that boosts your lifetime earning power but why borrow if you don't have to?

On average, a college student today will graduate with $23,000 in debt. When that loan comes due it will cost $264 a month for 10 years to repay.



By getting the first two years of a college education at WCC, students can easily save $10,000 to $20,000 on the total cost of a college education and often more.

But what if you could get the education without the debt? By getting the first two years of a college education at WCC and completing two more years at a higher-cost university, students can easily save $10,000 to $20,000 on the total cost of a college education and often more. WCC provides a high-quality education at a lower cost because it's already generously supported by local taxes.

Just do the math: Two years (60 credit hours) at WCC cost about $5,200. At Eastern Michigan University you'll pay over $16,000 for the same number of credits, and the University of Michigan will cost you nearly $24,000. Choose a private university and you might pay even more.

But choose WCC for the first two years, complete your general education requirements and then concentrate on your major when you transfer–and you will not only save money, you'll get the benefit of small classes, attentive faculty and top-rate support services.

Reason two: a second chance at your first choice

Today about a third of all college students will transfer at least once before they graduate. While some transfers are between four-year schools, many transfer students begin their education at a community college and then move on to a four-year university to complete their degree.

If you set your sights on the University of Michigan, Michigan State University or another high-profile university but discover that your high school GPA, academic record or test scores fall short, all is not lost.

If you're ready to work hard now, WCC can provide you with a second chance at getting into your dream school. As a transfer student, four-year colleges base their transfer admissions more on a student's success in college courses rather than on high school grades or SAT/ACT scores.

Alexandra McCracken, coordinator of WCC's transfer program MPOD (Michigan Pursuing Our Dreams), advises students who want to attend the University of Michigan. "If you want to get into Michigan, being successful in your classes at WCC is very important," she says. "Michigan requires a GPA of 3.0 or better but most of the student who are admitted have GPAs well above that. Being involved in extracurricular activities and providing a well-written essay can also can work in your favor in the admissions process." CF

Plan Well and Reach High

Three steps to a seamless transfer

Successful transfer students not only take their studies seriously, they take the time to set goals and plan their transfer.

With a good plan, you'll increase your chances of choosing the right school for your goals and not wasting either time or money taking classes you don't need–or missing classes you do need.

1. Set realistic goals

"A lot of students make up their mind that they want to be transfer students before they decide on a major or career," says WCC Divisional Advisor Brad Hoth. But not all good jobs require a four-year degree and step one should be to evaluate the associate degree and bachelor's degree options in fields that interest you.

"Your goals should mesh with reality," says Hoth. "If you decide you want to be an engineer, for example, you'll have to do well in math."

Students who are academically prepared to take college-level courses have the best chances of reaching their transfer goals.

"New college students generally have three main concerns: school, work and play," says Hoth. "I tell them that they can probably only manage to do two of them now: school and work, school and play, or work and play. They won't succeed if they try to do all three, so they will have to choose."

2. Find a career direction

"It's OK to not be certain about your major when you start," says Hoth. "Too many students just base their decisions on what their friends or family tell them without checking things out for themselves."

While you don't have to decide on a career–or even a major–right away, part of your job as a college student is to gather the information you need to make that decision soon.

Click here for a list of WCC's Transfer and University Parallel Programs

Go Online

WCC Career Resources
Find resources here to test your career interests and research careers

WCC Transfer Guides
Find out more about the specific transfer programs and requirements for many Michigan four-year colleges and universities

WCC Counseling, Career Planning and Employment Services
Check walk-in hours or schedule an appointment with a WCC counselor to plan your transfer and career goals CF

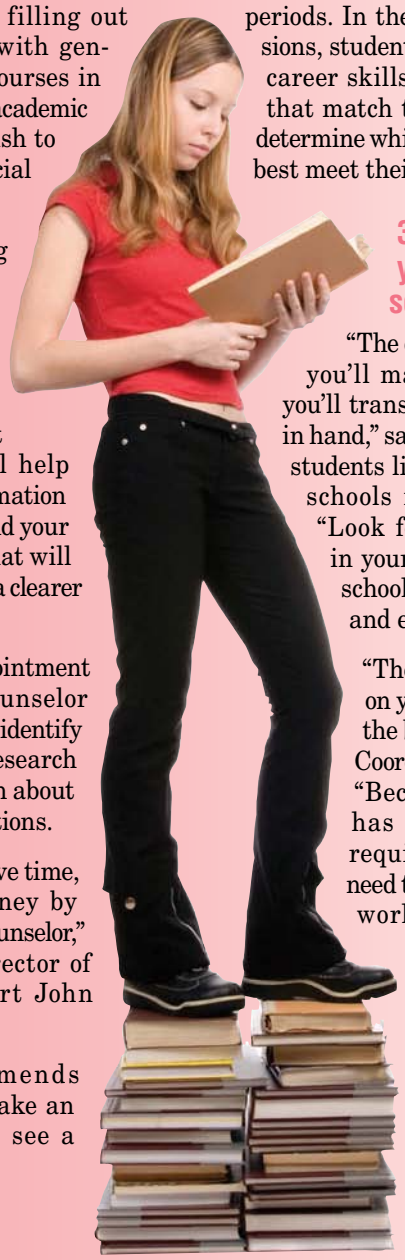
Most transfer students take the basics at WCC, filling out their schedule with general education courses in a broad range of academic fields from English to humanities to social sciences.

"Consider taking a career planning class, such as ACS 121 or 122," says Hoth. Even though this class won't transfer, it will help you gather information about yourself and your career options that will provide you with a clearer direction.

Or make an appointment with a WCC counselor who can help you identify your interests, research careers and learn about your transfer options.

"Students can save time, energy and money by meeting with a counselor," says WCC's Director of Student Support John Rinke.

Rinke recommends that students make an appointment to see a counselor during non-registration periods. In these one-on-one sessions, students can explore their career skills, research careers that match their interests and determine which four-year schools best meet their needs.



3. Decide on your transfer school

"The decision about what you'll major in and where you'll transfer should go hand in hand," says Hoth. "Too many students limit their search to schools nearby," he adds. "Look for good programs in your field and consider schools around the state and even out of state."

"The sooner you decide on your transfer school, the better," says MPOD Coordinator McCracken. "Because every school has slightly different requirements, you will need to tailor your coursework at WCC to the transfer requirements of the specific school." CF

STUDENT PROFILE

Andreea Mica-Prundeanu

From WCC to Ph.D.

Today Andreea Mica-Prundeanu is working on a Ph.D. in French Language and Literature at Michigan State University. It takes commitment to earn an advanced degree, but she has always been a good student and never doubted that she would succeed in college.

"I had about a 3.9 GPA in high school and I started taking classes at WCC as a dual-enrolled student when I was a senior at Dexter High School," she says. When she was awarded a scholarship to WCC, she didn't hesitate to take it and earn her first two years of credit before transferring to the University of Michigan for her bachelor's degree.

Put a plan in place

"When I saw my friends going to four-year schools right out of high school, yeah, part of me wished for the glamour of a big name university," she says. "But WCC was smaller and friendlier and I didn't feel isolated.

"I think it's a myth that good students don't go to community colleges. If that was ever true, it's certainly changing now.

"WCC definitely relieved my financial anxiety," she adds. "I didn't have to pay for those first two years–but even if I had it would have been much less expensive." She also appreciated the support and resources available. "Compared to the universities, WCC was better about assisting me in life as well as in education."

Mica-Prundeanu was born in Romania and moved to the U.S. with her parents when she was 15. She speaks English today with no trace of an accent. In Romanian schools she began learning French in second grade and English in fifth grade but she didn't decide to focus her career on French until college.

"I didn't really search for a major, I just knew that I wanted to do something with French and eventually decided I wanted to teach at the university level," she says.

Get ready for the real world

At WCC, Mica-Prundeanu joined the Phi Theta Kappa honor society and worked part-time in the Student Activities office, all of which made her feel part of a close-knit community. She stresses the importance of getting involved and making connections. "WCC has so many clubs and activities that people don't know about, but because I got involved, I felt immersed in the whole community college experience. I really felt like I was part of it.

"Although WCC prepared me for U-M, more than that it prepared me for the world," she says. "At Michigan, I was definitely challenged academically, but everyone was my own age; they all came from similar backgrounds and most of them didn't have to work. At WCC, I met people of all different ages and from different backgrounds, and I learned more about how to relate to people in the real world."

After completing her bachelor's at Michigan, Mica-Prundeanu earned a master's in French at Eastern Michigan University and then enrolled in the Ph.D. program at MSU, so she's certainly been exposed to many different institutions of higher education, yet WCC still has a special place in her heart: "I really am indebted to WCC; I feel really good about my experience there. If I had it to do again, I'd still choose WCC." CF

–LLC

Feature

WANT WORK?

Try Working Together

Job search groups take some of the pain out of unemployment

By Margaret Steen

With 14.5 million Americans out of work, the unemployed are turning to support groups. Some groups are organized by job hunters themselves. Others are run by churches, schools or other groups. Some focus on people in a certain profession; others are for anyone who wants to join.

Don't go it alone

Experts and job seekers say these support groups offer job hunters numerous benefits:

- **Job hunting know-how.** People don't do job searches every day. Meeting with other job hunters can help.

  "Talk about some of the methods you used this week," says Terrie Lopez, director of career and assessment services at Cerritos College in Norwalk, Calif., "which were most successful?"

"Losing your job is a lonely thing."

- Résumé help. When Ken Huber, a risk management consultant in Charlotte, N.C., was laid off in 2009, he and a few former coworkers started a weekly support group that later expanded. Many in the group had been managers, so they decided to review each others' résumés.

  Just about everybody found it to be valuable," Huber says. "Everybody always thinks they have a really good résumé until they sit down and go through the process."

- **A schedule.** The sudden lack of a routine after a layoff can leave job seekers feeling adrift.

  "You want as much as possible when you're in the job search process to still have some kind of a routine," Huber says. "I found it very helpful to know that on Wednesday mornings, I was going to be there."

- **Networking leads.** "A neighbor of somebody that's in the group might be the president"of a company that's hiring," says Norm Meshriy, a master career counselor and owner of Career Insights.

- **Accountability.** Reporting on your progress to your peers can be a powerful motivator. The thought that "by next Wednesday, they're going to expect me to bring in three leads," can help people stay focused, Lopez says.

- **Commiseration.** When you're going through a tough time, it can be helpful to know that others are having the same experience.

  "Losing your job is a lonely thing," Meshriy says. In a support group, "you have a place where you can share feelings and hear the feelings of others, so you don't feel so all alone."

The emotional support of the group can provide valuable perspective, as well. Although unemployment may seem like it's never going to end, even being out of work for a year will amount to only 2 percent of a 50-year career, says Rich Kenny, a talent acquisition professional in Michigan who founded a networking group for human resources professionals in Minnesota in 2009, where he lived before he found his current job.

"These kinds of groups help people realize that," Kenny says.

Making the most of it

How much you benefit from a group will depend on how you approach it. Experts and job seekers offer these tips for getting the most out of a support group:

- **Choose the right group.** Support groups range from informal to highly structured and professionally run.

  Some people join as many groups as they can, which can lead to what Huber calls "support group fatigue." He has seen people "spending all of their time going to support groups and not networking other than that.

Instead, be selective. Visit several groups before settling on one or two.

- **Don't turn it into a social hour.** It's great to make friends in a support group. But make sure you don't "get stuck in the more social aspect of it, where the time becomes used more for socializing as opposed to sharing information about the job search process," Lopez says.

- **Know your goal.** If you know that you want to talk to someone with experience in a certain industry, you'll be more likely to come away with possible leads.

  "You've got to know what you're looking for before you go in, or you're not going to get it," Meshriy says.

- **Remember that the group is temporary.** Your goal is to find a job–and at that point, the group will no longer be part of your weekly routine. You may find it helpful to give leads to people still in the group, but you won't be attending meetings.

  "People have to realize that you have to move on," Lopez says. "The safety net of the group has outlived its purpose."

- **Give as well as take.** Most groups don't require that you bring job leads or help others, but you'll likely get more out the group if you do.

  "If you go into it with an objective of helping others, you'll develop good relationships and people will want to help you," Meshriy says.

"It's really a pay-it-forward model," Kenny says. **CF**

Go Online

Find out about WCC Career and Employment Resources.

The College Benefit

A degree pays off in surprising ways

By Laura L. Crawford

What if there was a single magic formula that resulted in lower unemployment, higher job satisfaction, improved financial security, a better marriage, a healthier life, higher rates of volunteering and voting, smarter children and more happiness for anyone who wanted it?

Would you believe that there is and it's called a college education?

Most people already know that a college education will lead to a lifetime of higher earnings and less unemployment, but there is strong evidence that earning a college degree does even more than that. The skills, habits and attitudes that students acquire in college produce lifelong positive results.

"College's effects are both direct and indirect," says Dr. Earnest T. Pascarella, codirector of the Center for Research on Undergraduate Education at the University of Iowa and the coauthor of the book *How College Affects Students*.

Pascarella has compiled over 5,000 studies on college education covering three decades. "One important direct benefit of a college education is that students learn how to access information, and they also learn how to make better decisions with that information," he says.

"College not only affects who you interact with, who you marry, and where you work, but what you do in your time off, how you raise your children and what you can afford to buy."

But the indirect benefits are less easy to pin down he adds, "College not only affects who you interact with, who you marry, and where you work, but what you do in your time off, how you raise your children and what you can afford to buy."

Consider the impact of a college education on health for example: College students who take a health education course will learn about healthier habits and develop better research skills to evaluate health information for the rest of their lives–that's a direct benefit.

The indirect health benefits of a college education might include a better job with employer-provided health insurance, more money for healthy habits such as a gym membership or simply the positive influence of more college-educated, health-conscious friends and coworkers.

A report by the College Board, *Education Pays 2010*, sums up the positive results of a college degree, this way, "A growing body of evidence points to the direct impact of higher education not only on specific job-related skills, but also on the attitude and behavior patterns of students."

And, in general, the benefits increase with more education. Looking at income, overall health and general satisfaction with life, the statistics show that high school dropouts struggle the most. High school graduates do a little better, and people with some college or an associate's degree enjoy even more success.

But people with a bachelor's degree see an even bigger income, health and happiness boost, while at the top of the list are those with advanced and professional degrees.

So perhaps there is nothing magic about it–choosing higher education simply means choosing to become your best self. **CF**

What Will College Get You?

Statistics capture some of the benefits college graduates enjoy

FINANCIAL

Median earnings

- High school graduates: $33,800
- Associate's degree: $42,000
- Bachelor's degree: $55,700

Source: Education Pays 2010

Unemployment

- High school graduates: 9.7%
- Associate's degree: 6.8%
- Bachelor's degree: 5.2%

Source: 2009 Bureau of Labor Statistics

HEALTH

Employer-Provided Health Insurance

- High-school graduates: 50%
- Bachelor's degree or higher: 68%

Source: Education Pays 2010

Life Expectancy

- Age 75 – Life expectancy today of a 25-year-old with 12 years of education
- Age 82 - Life expectancy today of a 25-year-old with at least some college education

Source: 2008 Harvard Medical School Study

PERSONAL

Workers who feel that their work is important and provides a sense of accomplishment

- High school graduates: 56%
- Some college or associate's degree: 56%
- Bachelor's degree or higher: 79%

Source: Education Pays 2010

Happiness Index

A higher number indicates a greater level of reported happiness.

- High school or less: 31
- Some college: 35
- College graduate: 34
- Post graduate: 36

Source: Harris Interactive Poll Annual Happiness Index 2010

SOCIAL

Voting Rates

- High school graduates: 57%
- Some college or associate's degree: 69%
- Bachelor's degree or higher: 80%

Source: Education Pays 2010

Volunteering

- High school graduates: 19% (volunteered median of 48 hours/year)
- Some college or associate's degree: 30% (volunteered median of 50 hours/year)
- Bachelor's degree or higher: 43% (volunteered a median of 54 hours/year)

Source: Education Pays 2010

The Perfect Blend

Blended classes are equal parts high-tech and hands-on

By Cathy J. Smillie

Blended classes may truly be the best of both worlds. Students are comfortable learning in traditional classrooms but online classes provide rich sources of learning from lectures to videos to email chats. Combining the two means that students get a variety of learning opportunities in a single class.

That was the recent conclusion of a Department of Education analysis, "Evaluation of Evidence-Based Practices in Online Learning." The results of the report show that online classes actually produced better student outcomes than traditional face-to-face classes, and blended learning offered an even larger advantage over purely face-to-face classes.

Online classes actually produced better student outcomes than traditional face-to-face classes, and blended learning offered an even larger advantage.

One advantage of blended classes is they can be designed with a more learner-centered approach. Teachers of blended courses aren't simply standing in front of a room and talking, they're also providing students with visuals and audio, interactive chats, and many resources that the Internet allows.

Technology

Technology has become a way of life for most college students today so making it part of the classroom just makes sense. Integrating Internet technology with both online and blended classes allows instructors to meet students "on their own turf" states the Department of Education report.

James Egan, an online instructor at WCC as well as the dean of Distance Learning agrees: "The reality is that the online world is where today's students already are," he says. "They don't go to the phone book anymore; they don't use printed dictionaries anymore; they resource electronically. Their laptops, cell phones and other electronic devices are what they use to find the things they want to know."

Personal interaction

While many students like blended classes because they can study anytime, anywhere, it turns out, the time in class–with their instructors and each other–is what they find particularly valuable. When the students and instructors get to know each other in person, it can set up a more effective online relationship.

Egan, who taught math in a traditional classroom for nearly 30 years, agrees that blended classes, with their mix of online and in-person components, can encourage more participation, more enthusiasm, and ultimately, greater learning success.

"With my blended classes, outside of the classroom, students used well-structured materials that help to accommodate their different learning styles. As a result, students come to class ready to ask questions and participate in group activities," he says. **CF**

A Recipe for Success

Take one instructor experienced in teaching both online and traditional classes; add a variety of teaching methods and a diverse set of learning styles; add students who are eager for an online experience, but still enjoy the social aspect of face-to-face classes; filter it all through finely-tuned technology, and you've created a recipe for success.

Blended classes combine the best of online and classroom learning. Students have online assignments, in which they watch streamed video lectures by WCC instructors, and topical videos related to their subject. They use the Blackboard online class management system to access course materials, submit assignments, take tests and send emails. Then they come to campus every other week to meet with their instructors and classmates, and discuss in person what they've been learning online.

Since WCC first offered blended classes in fall 2007, the number of courses and enrollments has more than doubled, and the range of classes has expanded to include a menu of general education courses such as composition, biology, psychology and math, as well as classes related to specific programs such as nursing.

James Egan, WCC dean of Distance Learning, is enthusiastic about online and blended classes in part because they allow more one-on-one interaction between student and instructor. "With the online portion of the class, I can talk to each of my students individually, and more importantly, they can talk to me. I often find that the ones who sit quietly at the back of the classroom really open up with the privacy afforded by the Blackboard interaction."

Blended or hybrid–what's in a word?

WCC uses the term "blended" to refer to classes that combine traditional face-to-face classes with online learning. Many other colleges use the term "hybrid" for this type of class. Blended or hybrid classes typically meet about half as often as traditional face-to-face classes; the remainder of the classtime is spent in online learning.

Who chooses online and blended?

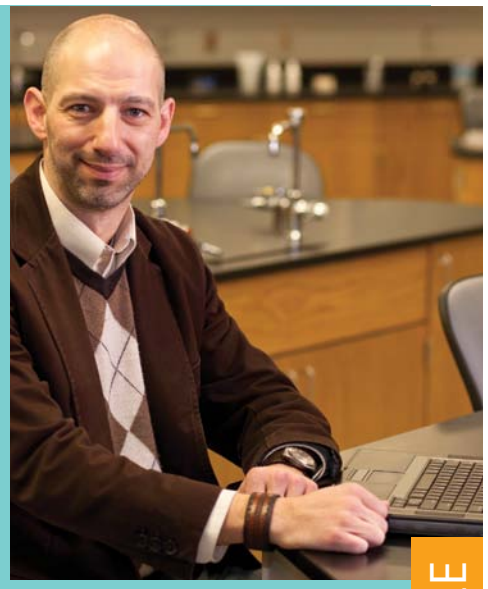
Profiles of online students point to a slightly older group, who have completed more college credit hours and more degree programs, and have a higher all-college GPA than their traditional counterparts. The following data represent characteristics of combined blended and online students from winter semester 2010:

Age	Number of students
Under 19	205
20-24	629
25-35	621
36-50	386
51-64	64
Education Level	
GED/non-high-school grad	106
High school grad or current high school student	724
Transfer from community college	245
Transfer from four-year college	441
College grad	388
Educational Goal	
Associates/Transfer	1012
Certificate/Transfer	522
Transfer only	291
Other	80

CF

FACULTY PROFILE

David Wooten
The snake charmer



David Wooten is charming. He's also smart, interesting and an excellent teacher. But what really ignites his imagination are snakes. Venomous snakes. And he's been this way since he was seven years old.

"My brother had severe asthma, so we couldn't have regular pets, like cats and dogs. One day, my dad brought a garter snake to show me. It was the most amazing thing I've ever seen! I knew then that I wanted to be an animal scientist, and I ploughed all the way through college and graduate school with that goal in mind."

Wooten researches, studies and handles snakes from all over the world, and he'd probably do that full time, except that he has a job he finds just as interesting. He teaches biology at WCC, and recently he designed and taught his first blended class. "Last spring we launched one blended section of Biology 101 with raving success; now there are three sections," he says.

Students use online resources such as lectures and textbooks, but Wooten wanted the online component to be a richer experience than watching an instructor behind a podium. "We use a system where they can watch me walking around, working out problems on the dry-erase board, interacting with the students in the audience and using the PowerPoint. We even incorporated animation."

Wooten also added virtual labs in which students virtually participate in online experiments. "Instead of just point and click, the students use their mouse to 'pick up' the beaker. Then they 'place' the beaker on the hot plate, and so on."

The virtual lab technology worked well, so Wooten has gone on to use it for virtual labs in respiration, photosynthesis and evolution.

"I've never had to be so organized to make a class run fluently. Teaching blended really forced me to bring that class to another level, which has affected my face-to-face classes. Without question, all my classes are improved from teaching this blended course."

After he earned a Master's of Science in Biology from Central Michigan University, Wooten attended the University of Florida for a Ph.D. in Zoology, researching, what else, venomous snakes. As a graduate teaching assistant, he taught environmental education at a nature center, an experience that did more than help pay tuition, it changed his focus from research to education.

"I felt like I was a good researcher, but I felt like I could be a great professor," he says. "So I came back to teach and never regretted it.

"I like what teaching allows you to do," he says. "I get to talk about what I love, and I get a chance to share it with others. I am still involved in research and then bring what I learn back to the classroom." Wooten calls himself "the interpreter." "I can talk biology and I can talk student," he says. "To be able to take something as complex as biology and watch students begin to understand it, there's this great synergy when you see them mirror your passion. At that point you feel, 'Yeah, I can actually make a difference.'" **CF**

– CJS

STUDENT PROFILE

Candace Werner
The perfect student

Candace Werner is the perfect student. Well, sort of.

She's an excellent student, yes. Where the perfect comes in is that Werner is an exact match for the profile of students who succeed in blended classes: She's in her mid-thirties, married, with two small children. She's on track with her program, secondary education, and will transfer to EMU in the fall. She takes online, face-to-face and blended classes. She's focused, enthusiastic and organized.

"I'm a list maker," Werner says. "I have this three-ring binder on my desk and every day I make lists of things I have to do, then cross off what I've finished, then add more things to do, and more… and more."

Her little boys help keep her organized: "I put the kids on the bus, run in and take a shower, run over to the College for class, then run home to meet the kids at the bus. Sometimes I sit my son down next to me when I'm studying. While he plays video games, I put on my headphones and listen to my lectures."

Werner said blended classes just "fit the bill" for her busy schedule. "It's a lot easier to block out one day on campus rather than two or three."

And she enjoys the online work. "It's nice to do things on my own, in my own time," she says. "The discussion boards let you have whole conversations with your classmates. You ask a question or comment on something, then someone else pops in and responds, and then someone else may have a question that you can answer.

"But it makes a difference if you've already met each other in class," she says. "I met another mother with two kids and we hit it off, so she would be the one I'd go to online when I had a question or comment."

For nine years, Werner worked as a deputy court clerk processing landlord/tenant eviction cases. "I had my salary and my pension, but I thought, 'This is all I'll be doing for the next 30 years.' I would go home at night feeling frustrated because I'd hear these unhappy stories and, in my job, there was nothing I could do to make a difference in these people's lives."

Soon Werner will be able to make that difference. She realized she wanted to be a teacher and she enrolled at WCC full time. "I jumped in with both feet, and I've never been happier," she says, "I'm going to be an English teacher for middle school or high school. Now I understand the importance of a good education; I want to help my students get into college." **CF**

– CJS

Go Online

Read more about WCC's blended classes and find out what's offered this semester.

The Expanding Online Universe

Expect more classes and more options online

By Eleanor Shelton

A college student in California needs to take a waste management class related to his environmental studies degree. His college doesn't offer it but a college in Wisconsin does. No problem–the class is online and his school will articulate the credits.

With technology impacting our lives in so many ways, and students busier than ever, the way we learn is changing.

The online universe

One day online learning may offer students a network of courses developed at different colleges and available to students regardless of the college they're enrolled in, says Dr. Gerard de los Santos, president of the League for Innovation in the Community College, an international organization that fosters the growth of community colleges through research, conferences, partnerships and shared resources.

"In the next ten years I think we'll see a dramatic increase in collaboration between various sectors in education. This will require thinking in big and bold ways about how

FACULTY PROFILE

Lisa Rombes

Online learning is adaptable

Math instructor Lisa Rombes loved teaching students in her Everyday College Math course and her Statistics course, but after 20-plus years in the classroom, she was looking for new challenges and more flexibility. So a year and a half ago she decided to try teaching online classes.

"I feel that online learning is where the growth is going to be," says Rombes.

While Rombes wasn't sure what to expect that first semester, she was surprised that the majority of questions she received from students were about the organization of the class rather than about math. Now she realizes that online students need to know what to expect from the class and how to access the material. Her online math classes include a textbook, video lectures and practice quizzes that allow students to learn the material in various ways–by watching, listening or through practice.

One of the strengths of online classes is that students can adapt the class to their own learning style.

"I know that I have students who watch the videos multiple times, and some who haven't watched them once. The successful students in my class are the ones who know what they need to get the subject down. They're self aware of the their learning style, have great communication skills and are organized," says Rombes.

"I don't want to give up my traditional classes because I would miss the person-to-person contact, but teaching online is satisfying. Even with my nervous math students I can still get through and encourage them to keep learning," she says. **CF**

– ES

we meet the learning needs of our students," he says.

Online is different

"Enrollment in distance learning and blended learning appear to be outpacing traditional on campus enrollments," says de los Santos.

"Students are looking at online options for different reasons. It could be the displaced worker who has to juggle a family or a younger student who is part of the 'Net' generation and is comfortable with technology."

While online learning has many positive aspects such as access and flexibility, there are some caveats says Dr. John Roueche, Community College Leadership director and professor in the College of Education at the University of Texas at Austin.

First, choose your online courses carefully: "Some online programs are worthy of praise and some are fly-by-night and take advantage of students," he cautions.

Second, stay connected to fellow students and your teacher. Roueche is encouraged by the trend he is seeing of incorporating collaborative activities into courses such as chat rooms so students get interaction along with their instruction.

Finally, be sure you're prepared to learn online. "Students need to be evaluated to determine whether they will be successful online learners," he says.

"They need to demonstrate that they are goal oriented, self directed and need a certain level of academic and computer skills." **CF**

"Technology is all around us in online banking, online video gaming, even finding a mate online. Why not use it for education too?"

STUDENT PROFILE

Sheila Coy

Online fits busy schedule

Sheila Coy is a very busy woman. She works full time at an accounting firm and goes to school full time at WCC. She is pursuing a business degree although she's been in the business world for years.

"I have a lot of experience but I feel that I need the formal credentials. I'm thinking about starting my own business one day," she says.

Coy enjoys her classes at WCC but because of her time limits, coming to campus several evenings a week wasn't working, so she began taking classes online.

"I've taken at least seven or eight online classes and they are exactly what I expected. I had the computer skills, I knew Blackboard but I didn't know there would be discussion boards where I could talk and interact with other students. It's like being in a real class without actually being in a classroom," says Coy.

Coy had a very good experience taking Lisa Rombes's Everyday College Math class last semester. "She answered my questions quickly, was fair and had very well organized and clear syllabus and class handouts. I feel like I got to know her a little bit and I have never laid eyes on her," says Coy.

Coy realizes that some classes don't lend themselves to the online format such as her Interpersonal Communications class, but overall she feels that distance learning can be a good choice for students.

"I like reading the chapters at my own pace and I am self directed and don't always need a teacher in front of me. And I'm a night owl so I often prefer taking my classes between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. That's what works for me." **CF**

– ES

Online: Flexible, Adaptable and Growing

Today WCC offers 39 courses online and every semester the student enrollment in online classes grows. Currently close to 2,000 students are enrolled in an online class–that's about 12 percent of the student population.

"Our students now need to multitask, balancing work, family and school. Online classes are not just a convenience but a necessity," says Jim Egan, dean of Distance Learning. "And it makes sense. Technology is all around us in online banking, online video gaming, even finding a mate online. Why not use it for education too?"

WCC first offered online courses in 2001. Today all visuals are online, primarily streamed; the Blackboard system delivers the content, communications and assessments; and email is the primary method for communicating with faculty and other students.

According to Egan, WCC students taking online classes do equally well or even better than those taking traditional on-campus classes. The reason may be exactly what sets them apart–flexibility.

"Online classes address the issue of different learning styles and paces," says Egan. "Some students are visual learners so they have the option of watching a lecture as many times as they want. Text-based learners can rely on the supporting material. No one size fits all." **CF**

Go Online

Read more about WCC's online classes and see what's offered this semester.

Feature

Assess Your Assets

Take time to know yourself before jumping on a career path

By Anita LeBlanc

Wouldn't it be wonderful to find a resource that could reveal your perfect career and describe how to achieve it? You have one–it's you.

Unfortunately the noise of the expectations of others, a desire for big money or prestige, the allure of a sexy job title or the latest hot job trend can distract you from listening to who you are and what you want to do with your life.

Who are you?

Anthony Spadafore of Pathfinders, a Washington, D.C.-area career design consulting firm, and coauthor of *Now What? A Young Person's Guide to Choosing the Perfect Career,* says that often students parachute into college figuring they will determine their major and/or career goal along the way–an expensive, and often ultimately unproductive, tactic.

"The conventional wisdom that 'you can do anything you want if you try hard enough' is leading most people down the wrong road."

Donnie McGovern, director of The University of Cincinnati's Exploratory Studies, agrees that young students overwhelmed with the task of making major educational and career decisions often don't take the opportunity to understand what makes them tick and identify the jobs that can keep them ticking productively.

"Students often overlook the advantage of personality and vocational assessments available at the career counseling department at their local college or university," says McGovern. "Those considering attending college, or making a career transition, can better understand their skills, abilities, personal qualities, values and interests, and be more effective in making decisions about their career goals and setting their educational path when aided by assessments."

Do it now, or do it later

Spadafore estimates that by the time people reach mid-career, nearly 70 percent are in a job that isn't in alignment with their talents or sense of purpose. Feeling trapped in the wrong profession, many people will choose to stay put and fake it, end up job hopping or go back to school without comprehending that the fix for their dissatisfaction is to use their innate talents rather than struggling to overcome their perceived weaknesses.

Spadafore's personal experience made him a believer in the value of discerning strengths and interests through assessment. "I studied electrical engineering and was in the field for years, but kept falling down the ladder. After getting the results of my assessment, I learned that I was more fascinated by people than machines. The power of my experience made me passionate about helping others find their true niche instead of languishing in a mismatched career.

"The conventional wisdom that 'you can do anything you want if you try hard enough' is leading most people down the wrong road," he says. "Each of us should be taught to understand what our real talents are, and then we can confidently pursue the right education for us–one that can bring long-term, sustainable fulfillment. This is where assessments can help.

"Our underlying aptitudes and natural abilities remain steadfast throughout our lives, the same goes with our weak spots; they'll always remain no matter how diligently we attempt to overcome them," he says.

Start here

While thousands of assessments exist that can reveal common threads and patterns in your life that you may not be aware of, and confirm information you may already know, Spadafore and McGovern cite two major ones that have been used for decades and are the ones most often used on college campuses: The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) and the Strong Interest Inventory (SII).

MBTI: You've got personality and preferences

The classic MBTI personality assessment can help you better understand your personality type, how you relate and interact with others, and optimize your career choices by helping you understand your personal preferences. It's designed to help gather information about how an individual perceives information and makes decisions, including the effects of preference on career choice. It allows the individ-

Go Online

Find out how WCC's Counseling, Career Planning and Employment Services can help you assess your own career aptitudes.

ual to play to their strengths as they investigate related occupations and strategies for career exploration.

SII: Playing to your strengths

The SII indicator is an assessment of interests, based on an idea that individuals are more satisfied and productive when they work in jobs or at tasks they find interesting, and with people whose interests are similar to theirs. Computer results from this 25-minute assessment show how certain interests compare with the interests of people successfully employed in specific occupations. It identifies optimum career choices based on interests, and includes related occupations that jibe with them. **CF**

How Well Do You Know Yourself?

Career and personality assessments can reveal your true strengths

By Anita LeBlanc

Should you visit a career or counseling center for a personality assessment? The following quiz can help you decide. Select the answer that you most agree with:

1 I'll choose my career and course of study based on what my parents and friends suggest.

- ☐ A. Yes, I trust their judgment. They know me best and what's good for me.
- ☐ B. No, I think it makes sense to better understand my talents and what kind of work is most suited to me.

2 Successful people work harder to balance out their weaknesses.

- ☐ A. No, the most successful people make use of their strengths rather than focusing on their weaknesses.
- ☐ B. Yes, overcoming obstacles is a sign of a strong person.

3 The first two years of college are for figuring out my choice of a career and a major.

- ☐ A. Yes, those first two years are best spent trying out all different kinds of classes and exploring as many careers as possible.
- ☐ B. No, if I identify my inherent traits and interests before I go to college, I can focus on classes that are a good fit for my aptitudes.

4 The bigger the paycheck, the better the job.

- ☐ A. No, the most successful people have a feeling of purpose and a sense of satisfaction in their work. They generally have a better quality of life and income as well.
- ☐ B. Yes, getting paid is the only reason people work.

5 If you do what you love, you might be happy, but you'll probably be poor.

- ☐ A. Yes, while there may be the occasional rock star or sports hero, most people have to put making a living first before following a dream.
- ☐ B. No, there are thousands of well-paying careers that call for a variety of talents. Understanding my talents and preferences and opening myself up to exploring career options can lead me to work that pays well and also gives me satisfaction.

Answer Key

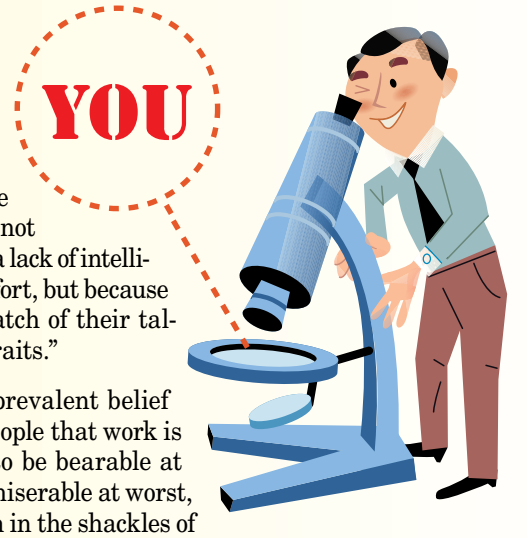
Give yourself one point for each correct answer.

1-B. McGovern says that many students mistakenly choose their major based on the well-meaning guidance of parents, peers, counselors and teachers who often set their recommendations on what *they* think is the best fit for the student, with little to no consideration of the student's ability or personality type.

Spadafore adds that it's important that people understand that talent is more than an innate ability for acting, music, art or athletics. "In reality, there are many kinds of talents–organizing, visualizing, spatial ability versus working with people–that can result in any number of satisfying careers."

2-A. The mistaken assumption is that our strengths will stand, so we should focus on overcoming our weaknesses. In fact, Gallup research shows that a high percentage of people obsess over their weaknesses rather than their strengths. The reality is that the greatest leaders, and most people in general, do their best when playing to their innate talents.

3-B. Spadafore says he speaks to any number of parents who spend thousands of dollars on SAT tutoring and backup to get their children into the best colleges before they consider a personality assessment for their children. "It's sad how many people struggle in college or careers, not because of a lack of intelligence or effort, but because of a mismatch of their talents and traits."



4-A. The prevalent belief of many people that work is supposed to be bearable at best, and miserable at worst, keeps them in the shackles of unsatisfying, mind- and spirit-sapping jobs. While it's necessary to have a paycheck, isn't life supposed to be more than punching a clock and cashing a check? Aren't you deserving of a career that offers you affirmation and brings joy to your life?

5-B. McGovern notes, "If you major in something you love to study, or naturally gravitate toward, you will typically find a way to make those skills transferable in the job market. In short, do what you love and the money will indeed follow."

Scoring

4-5 points: You've got a good understanding about how an assessment can give you the lead in your college studies and career. Bet you've already given yourself the advantage of an assessment.

2-3 points: Not bad, but why not equip yourself with a better understanding of the talents you have and the career that's right for you?

0-1 point: Run, don't walk, to a career counseling department and sign up for an assessment today. You deserve more than slogging through classes and a career that don't match your talents. **CF**

Feature

Check Your Attitude

Are negative emotions putting your job at risk?

By Kim Kachadoorian

The other day in a grocery store I heard a mother say to a child "Young lady, you better check your attitude." Adults say this to children all the time, but rarely do they say it to each other. Yet some adults could benefit from a little attitude check–especially at work. Just like misbehaving children, adults who haven't mastered their emotions can poison an entire workplace with their bad attitude.

Attitude is often considered a "soft skill." It's difficult to measure on a performance review, but everyone knows when someone has an attitude problem. Everyone knows who is the angry person, the overly-sensitive person, the complainer, the back-stabber, the slacker and so on. Sure, we all have natural emotional reactions to workplace pressures, but the better you are at mastering them, the more successful you will be at work.

An optimistic attitude not only reflects well on you, it makes your coworkers, and the entire company, look good.

How is your attitude at work? Here is a check:

Are you usually positive?

Dig deep–do you work to keep a positive attitude on the job? If not, is there something you can do to change it? Marsha Petrie Sue, professional speaker and author of *The Reactor Factor*, says, "If you want to succeed, you must take personal responsibility for your attitude. Do you have real enthusiasm in your interactions with others?

A positive attitude is built by caring and learning from your environment and not being engrossed only with yourself or your own opinions. Take an inventory of your attitude; are you a responsible adult at work?

An optimistic attitude not only reflects well on you, it makes your coworkers, and the entire company, look good. The result is that your coworkers–and your boss–value your contributions, and your job is a little more secure than it would be if you were a constant complainer dragging everyone down. Learning to see the "silver linings" in your work situation may be the strength that binds your team.

Do you build good relationships at work?

Gordon S. Curtis, author of the book *Well Connected* and executive transition coach, offers the following advice: "There is a tell-tale way to know how your attitude affects others at work; if you ask for help from a fellow team member and they help without hesitating, your attitude is likely in good standing. If no one wants to invest in helping you, you might want to reevaluate your relationships and your mood at work. Your attitude may be undermining your success with your coworkers; you may be creating your own problems."

While it may be human nature to want to win, in a negative and hostile environment there are no winners. The more you cultivate friendships and teamwork with your coworkers, the more you too will thrive.

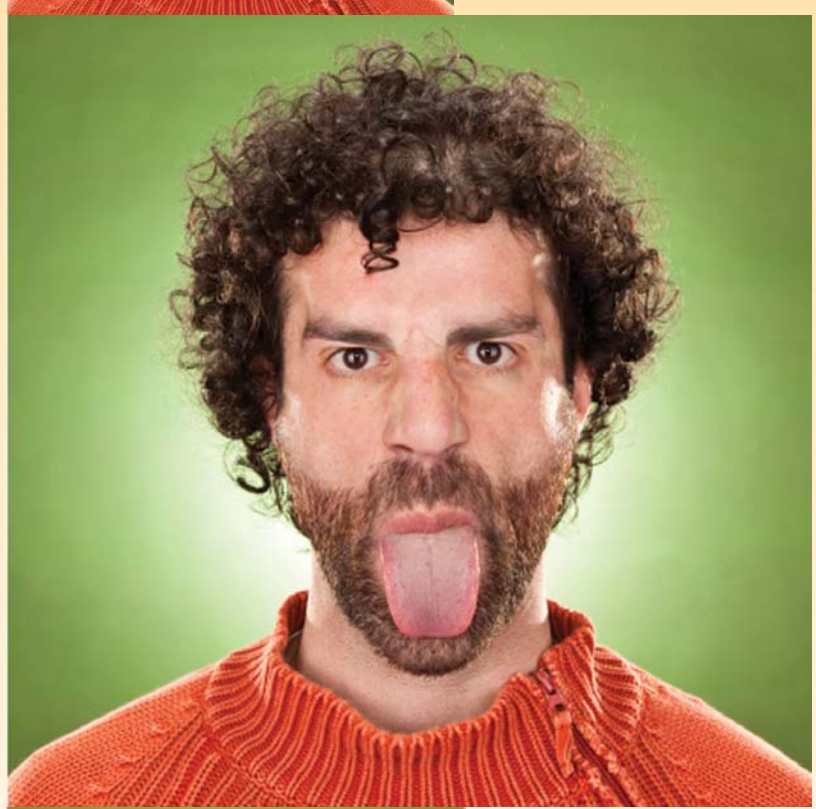
Do you love your work?

Rich Sheridan, CEO of Menlo Innovations LLC, a software development company in Ann Arbor, Mich., is renowned for generating a positive atmosphere in the workplace. "You should seek joy in both what you do and the environment in which you do it. You will be more productive, more engaged, more creative, and produce higher quality work in whatever you choose to do," he says.

But what if you just don't find joy in your work? If you truly feel that you're in the wrong profession and believe the only way to change it is to leave, start working towards that goal. The key word here is "start"–go back to school, or find a new job or whatever it takes to "start." Change is not always easy, so start with baby steps. Think of the song lyrics "just put one foot in front of the other, and soon you'll be walking out the door." Take that first step, and then another.

How did you do? Positive and optimistic? Check. Cooperative and friendly? Check. Engaged and creative? Check. While everyone is entitled to a bad day now and then and a bad attitude might occasionally creep up on you, learn to resist it.

Of course it takes effort to be your best every day. But by keeping tabs on your attitude and making an effort to resist your desires to throw a tantrum, you're increasing your value at work. You're making it easier for everyone to be happier at work –including you. CF



CareerFocus Goes Interactive

Videos, QR codes and more links to WCC online resources

A new interactive online version of CareerFocus will arrive in WCC students' email just as the printed magazine reaches Washtenaw County mailboxes.

Readers of both versions are going to notice many more features that link CareerFocus to resources on the WCC website as well as to other useful resources on the Web.

What's new in the printed CareerFocus?

- **Look for the Quick Response (QR) codes** in articles and in the "WCC Schools" listing of WCC programs. Smart phones equipped with a QR app can read the code and take you directly online. (Find a list of free downloads of QR apps at *www.mobile-barcodes.com/qr-code-software)*
- **The new "WCC Connection"** links readers directly to the most popular sections of the College website. Apply for admission, search the class schedule, apply for federal financial aid, take an online orientation, and get online (or in-person) advising just by following the links or QR codes on page 16.
- **Launch videos** about WCC programs and schools with QR codes in the "WCC Schools" listing.
- **New "Go Online"** information with every article provides QR codes and conventional URLs for resources on WCC's website and other Web resources.

What's new about the online magazine?

- View the new interactive online CareerFocus at *www.wccnet.edu/about-us/career-focus*
- Embedded videos let readers learn even more about WCC programs
- Pop-up information boxes allow readers to get more information without leaving an article
- Move seamlessly between CareerFocus and WCC's website

Are You a WCC Alum?

Did you earn a certificate or associate degree from WCC? Did you take classes, or transfer? Do you look back on your time at Washtenaw with fondness and wonder what happened to all those great people you met?

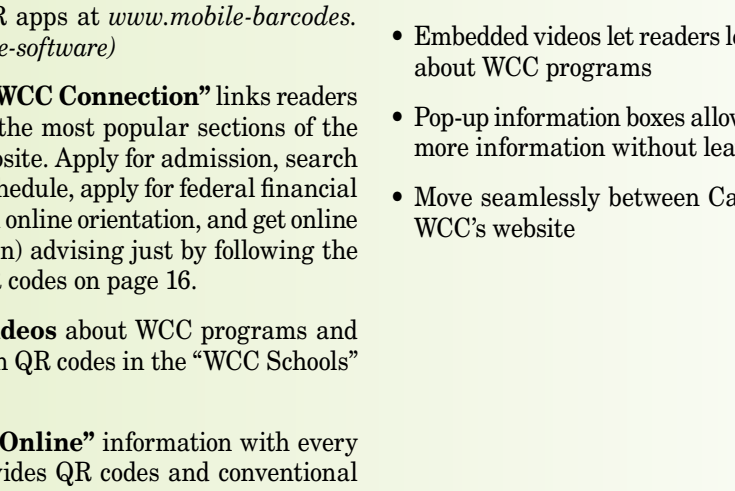
WCC's new alumni website offers you a way to reconnect. Once you register you can post a profile and see other alumni profiles. "This is the first step in building a base of alumni who can connect with each other both personally and professionally," says Alicia Schuster, scholarship and alumni coordinator at the WCC Foundation.

As the base of alumni grows, so too will opportunities for new alumni events. "By getting involved, our alumni members can shape the direction of the WCC Alumni Association," says Schuster.

Registered members of the Alumni Association receive additional benefits, which include:

- Biannual Internet alumni newsletter
- Use of WCC library
- Use of WCC counseling and career planning services
- Discount tickets to student events
- Special alumni events or invitations to WCC Foundation events
- The WCC Foundation newsletter

Find out more about the Alumni Association and register at *alumni.wccnet.edu* CF



Patrick A. McLean Appointed to Fill WCC Board Vacancy

When David Rutledge won the election for 54th District representative in the Michigan House of Representatives last November, he left a vacancy on the WCC Board of Trustees.

In January, the WCC Board appointed Patrick A. McLean to serve the two years of Rutledge's unexpired term. McLean's appointment will expire Dec. 31, 2012, following the next general election.

McLean, a resident of Ypsilanti, has been employed as the finance director for the city of Toledo, Ohio since January 2010. Before that he served as associate vice chancellor for affordability and efficiency with the Ohio Board of Regents, as chief financial officer for the Ohio Attorney General's office and as chief of staff for the Ohio Senate Minority Caucus.

Locally, McLean spent three years as executive director of the Washtenaw Area Council for Children and served as a nonprofit and political consultant. He was also a commissioner with the Ypsilanti Housing Commission.

McLean received his master's in political science from Miami University in Ohio and his bachelor's in political science from the University of Dayton. He also has taught as an adjunct professor at Monroe County Community College in Michigan, New York University and Wilmington College in Ohio.

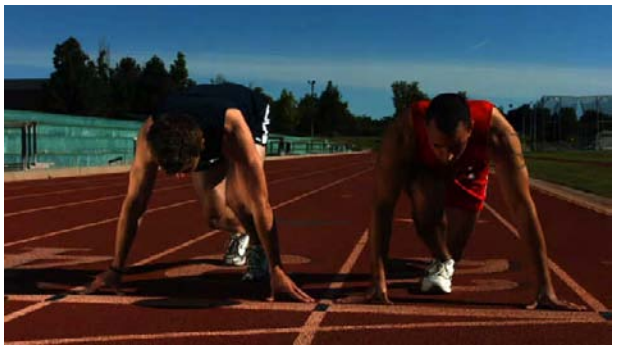
Go Online

Download a free app for your smart phone that will allow you to link to more Web information using a QR code.

WCC Connection

Take the Next Step

Do you want to find out more about WCC programs and classes? Are you ready to apply for admission? Get started now and you could be learning a new skill in a WCC classroom next semester. Just follow these links to important information on the WCC website.



1 Learn More About WCC programs

WCC offers more than a hundred certificate, associate degree and transfer programs. Look over the online listing and begin exploring programs that meet your interests and goals.

2 Apply for Admission

WCC's application for admission is free and it can be completed online. Whether you plan to earn a certificate or an associate degree, transfer to a university or take a few courses, WCC has classes and programs that provide the skills you need. Once you apply, you'll be mailed information you need to complete the admission process.

3 Search the Class Schedule

Find out which classes will be offered in the upcoming semester.

4 Apply for Federal Financial Aid

Need help paying for your education? Learn more about federal financial aid, scholarships and low-interest federal student loans.

5 Find out About Orientation

If you're new to WCC, online orientation is a required first step before you can register for classes. New college students may also be required to attend an on-campus orientation and to take the COMPASS placement test. Find out more about the process here.

6 Connect with WCC Counseling and Advising

WCC counselors can help you set goals, decide on a course of study and select the right classes. Whether you plan to transfer to a four-year university or earn a WCC degree, a visit to the Counseling and Advising office provides you with an opportunity to ask questions, explore your options and decide on the best course of study for your goals.

7 Register for Classes

Once you're ready to go, follow these instructions to register online.

Important Dates to Remember

March 16
Spring/Summer semester registration begins for current and readmitted students

March 23
Spring/Summer semester registration begins for new students

May 5, May 29 and June 13
Last dates to register for 12, 10 and 7 1/2 -week sessions

May 9, May 31 and June 15
Spring/Summer 12, 10 and 7 1/2 -week sessions begin

WCC: Your Community College

You'll find over a hundred certificate and degree programs in the 14 schools of study at WCC. Choose the schools that match your interests and select from the related programs.

Want to get into a new career as quickly as possible? A certificate program consisting of 15- to 30-credit hours can have you on the job within a year.

Want vocational or technical training along with solid academics? An associate degree program with about 64 credit hours will prepare you for in-demand professions in fields such as healthcare, information technology, media arts and more.

Plan on earning a bachelor's degree or higher? Two years of foundation courses at WCC will prepare you to transfer to nearly any four-year college in the nation and save you thousands of dollars too. Many associate degree programs also prepare you for transfer to related bachelor's degree programs at four-year universities too.

Explore the WCC schools listing below for a career that fits your goals.

WCC Schools

Want to learn more?

Link to WCC videos to see for yourself what WCC schools and programs have to offer.
www.wccnet.edu/flashvideos

School of Advanced Manufacturing Systems

Whether your interest is in robotics, manufacturing or automation, the programs in the School of Advanced Manufacturing Systems will fit your needs. Maintain and troubleshoot the machines that make commercial goods by specializing in one or more aspects of the machining industry. Develop entry level or advanced skills in electronics, automation, industrial computing, fluid power, numerical controls or welding. Advanced specialization is also available in some of these areas.

Automation
- Fluid Power Certificate
- Automation Technology Associate in Applied Science

Electronics
- Industrial Electronics Technology Certificate
- Industrial Electronics Technology II Advanced Certificate

Machine Tool
- Machine Tool Technology Certificate

Manufacturing
- Numerical Control Programming Certificate

Related Options

Welding–See School of Construction Technology

Computer Systems Technology Certificate–See School of Information Technology

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Numerical Tool and Process Control Programmers–$46,010*

School of Apprenticeship Studies

Find a trade-related associate's degree program that builds on your unique set of skills while giving you the knowledge and skills needed to move into organizational leadership.

Apprenticeship Studies
- Apprentice Completion Certificate
- Journeyman Industrial Associate in Applied Science
- Occupational Studies Associate in Applied Science

Articulated Union Building Trade Programs
- Construction Supervision Certificate
- Construction Supervision Associate in Applied Science
- Construction Supervision Associate in Science

United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada
- Industrial Training Associate in Applied Science
- Industrial Training Associate in Science
- Sustainable Technologies in HVACR Associate in Applied Science

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

School of Automotive and Motorcycle Technology

If you are looking for the best technical training in the automotive or motorcycle fields, WCC's School of Automotive and Motorcycle Technology is the place for you. Whether your focus is finding employment as a technician, learning about performance or creating a custom look, our intermediate and advanced certificate programs and associate's degrees will enhance your personal and professional qualifications. These programs offer the perfect blend of classroom and hands-on education not available in any other educational setting.

Auto Body Repair
- Auto Body Repair Certificate
- Collision Repair Refinish Technician Advanced Certificate
- Collision Repair Technician Advanced Certificate

Automotive Services
- Automotive Mechanics Certificate
- Automotive Services Technician Advanced Certificate

Custom Cars & Concepts
- Custom Auto Body Technician Advanced Certificate
- Custom Fabrication & Chassis Design Advanced Certificate

Motorcycle Service Technician
- Motorcycle Service Technology I Certificate
- Motorcycle Service Technology II Advanced Certificate

Related Options

Welding–See School of Construction Technology
Occupational Studies–See School of Apprenticeship Studies

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Automotive Body and Related Repairers –$37,980*

Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics –$35,420*

Motorcycle Mechanics–$31,820*

*Salaries are based on most current data available as of June 2010. Earnings vary based on experience, education and location. *From the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics most current Occupational Employment Statistics (May 2009). **From Salary.com.*

School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies

Learn the fundamentals you will need to become a business leader or entrepreneur. These programs help you develop entry-level skills in various aspects of business. Whether your goal is to make your place in an existing industry or branch out on your own, these programs can provide the foundation for success.

Entrepreneurship

- **Entrepreneurship Certificate**

Business

- **Business Sales and Marketing Certificate**
- **Human Resource Management Certificate**
- **Management Supervision Advanced Certificate**
- **Management Supervision Associate in Applied Science**

Accounting

- **Accounting Certificate**
- **Accounting Associate in Applied Science**

Business Office Systems

- **Administrative Assistant I Certificate**
- **Computer Software Applications Certificate**
- **Medical Office Assistant Certificate**
- **Administrative Assistant II Advanced Certificate**
- **Administrative Assistant Technology Associate in Applied Science**

Related Options

Business Associate in Art–See Transfer and University Parallel Programs
Occupational Studies–See School of Apprenticeship Studies

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Sales Representatives, Wholesale Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific Products–$71,340*

Employment, Recruitment and Placement Specialists–$46,200*

Food Service Managers–$47,210*

First Line Supervisors/Managers of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers–$58,330*

First Line Supervisors/Managers of Mechanics, Installers, Repairers–$51,000*

Executive Secretaries or Administrative Assistants–$41,650*

Medical Secretaries–$30,800*

School of Child Care Professionals

Whether you are looking to care for children in a home-based center or a professional or school-based setting, these programs can prepare you for an entry-level position as a childcare professional.

- **Child Development Certificate**
- **Child Care and Education Advanced Certificate**
- **Child Care Professional Associate in Applied Science**

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions

National Median Salaries

Preschool Teachers–$24,540*

School of Construction Technology

Become part of the growing global community of skilled trades professionals or skilled trades managers. Design, plan, construct and complete structures for your home or for your career. You can earn a certificate or degree in Residential Construction; Construction Management; or Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning. These programs offer the perfect blend of classroom education and hands-on training. You can learn classic skills such as woodworking or modern techniques needed to maintain or improve your own structure. The HVACR program offers a wide range of training to equip high-end technicians with the knowledge and skills needed for successful entry into the field.

Construction Management

- **Commercial Property Maintenance Technology Advanced Certificate**
- **Construction Management Associate in Art**

HVACR

- **Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Residential Certificate**
- **Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Commercial Advanced Certificate**
- **Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Industrial Advanced Certificate**
- **Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Associate in Applied Science**

Residential Construction

- **Residential Construction I Certificate**
- **Cabinetmaking/Millwork Systems Technology Advanced Certificate**
- **Residential Construction II Advanced Certificate**
- **Residential Construction Associate in Science**

Welding and Fabrication

- **Welding Certificate**
- **Welding Mechanics Advanced Certificate**
- **Welding Associate in Applied Science**

Related Options

Management Supervision Advanced Certificate–See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies

Management Supervision Associate in Applied Science– See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Construction Managers–$82,330*

Carpenters–$39,470*

Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Mechanics–$41,100*

Welders, Cutters, Solderers or Brazers–$34,750*

*Salaries are based on most current data available as of June 2010. Earnings vary based on experience, education and location. *From the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics most current Occupational Employment Statistics (May 2009). **From Salary.com.*

School of Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement

Develop the skills and knowledge necessary for work in law enforcement and criminal justice. Completion of the Police Academy Certificate prepares you to take the exam necessary for a career as a police officer.

Police Academy Certificate

Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Associate in Applied Science

Related Options

Criminal Justice Associate in Art–See Transfer and University Parallel Programs

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Police and Sheriff Patrol Officers–$53,210*

Correctional Officers–$39,050**

School of Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management

Find your passion in food, friends and elegant surroundings. Develop skills for an entry-level position in restaurant, hospitality or institutional settings. Whether your interests lie in pastry and wedding cakes, food preparation and marketing or management of food service, these are the programs for you.

Baking and Pastry Certificate

Culinary Arts Certificate

Hospitality Management Certificate

Culinary and Hospitality Management Associate in Applied Science

Related Options

Management Supervision Advanced Certificate–See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies
Management Supervision Associate in Applied Science–See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies
Occupational Studies–See School of Apprenticeship Studies

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Food Service Managers–$47,210*

Chefs and Head Cooks–$40,090*

School of Digital Media Arts

Creativity abounds in the School of Digital Media Arts which encompasses the disciplines of animation, graphic design, Internet professional, photography and video. These programs introduce students to foundational skills and prepare them for creative jobs using those skills.

3-D Animation

3-D Animation Associate in Applied Science

Digital Video

Digital Video Film Production Certificate

Digital Video Production Associate in Art

Graphic Design

Graphic Design Certificate

Graphic Design Associate in Applied Science

Internet Professional

Web Technology Certificate

Web Application Developer Advanced Certificate

Web Graphic Design Advanced Certificate

Web User Experience Advanced Certificate

Photography

Photographic Imaging Certificate

Photographic Technology Associate in Applied Science

Related Options

Internet Professional AA Degree–See Transfer and University Parallel Programs

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Multi-Media Artists and Animators–$58,250*

Television, Video or Motion Picture Camera Operators–$42,940*

Film and Video Editors–$50,790*

Graphic Designers–$43,180*

Art Directors–$78,580*

Photographers–$29,770*

Web Designers–The middle 50 percent earn between $55,230 and $72,236**

Washtenaw Community College ADA/EEO/Title IX/Section 504 Compliance Statements

Washtenaw Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, height, weight, marital status or veteran status in provision of its educational programs and services or in employment opportunities and benefits. WCC is committed to compliance in all of its activities and services with the requirements of Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Public Act 453, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, Public Act 220, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Inquiries concerning programs and services under Title IX and Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act should be directed to the Office of the Associate Vice President of Student Services, Room SC 275A, Student Center Building, 734-973-3536. Inquiries regarding compliance in employment should be directed to the College Affirmative Action Officer in the Office of Human Resource Management, Room 120, Business Education Building, 734-973-3497. Inquiries concerning access to facilities should be directed to the Director of Plant Operations, Plant Operations Building, 734-677-5300.

Title II Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act Compliance Statement

The Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act of 1990 is a federal law that mandates the disclosure by all institutions of higher education of the rates of graduation, the number of incidents of certain criminal offenses, and the default rate for student loans. The law also mandates that information be provided on the type of security provided on campus, the pertinent policies regarding security on campus, and policies that record and deal with alcohol and drug abuse. Washtenaw Community College is in full compliance with these provisions and provides the required information annually through college publications. Inquiries concerning the Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act should be directed to Washtenaw Community College, Office of the Associate Vice President of Student Services, Room SC 275A, Student Center Building, Ann Arbor, MI 48105 (telephone 734-973-3536).

WCC is a smoke-free campus.

Washtenaw Community College is accredited by

The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, Illinois 60604-1413
312.263.0456
www.ncahlc.org
For information on Washtenaw Community College, visit www.wccnet.edu, or call 734-973-3300

*Salaries are based on most current data available as of June 2010. Earnings vary based on experience, education and location. *From the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics most current Occupational Employment Statistics (May 2009). **From Salary.com.*

School of Information Technology

The School of Applied Information Technology gathers the diverse areas that make up the computer technology of today. From basic programming languages to systems development through networking, these programs provide the core of information technology. Develop skills in computer security or data recovery and analysis. The growing field of applied information technology is waiting for you.

Networking

- **Computer Systems Technology Certificate**
- **Computer Networking Academy I Advanced Certificate**
- **Computer Networking Operating Systems I Advanced Certificate**
- **Computer Networking Associate in Applied Science**

Programming

- **Foundations of Information Systems Certificate**
- **C++ Programming Advanced Certificate**
- **Programming in Java Advanced Certificate**
- **Computer Science: Programming in Java Associate in Science**
- **Information Systems: Programming in C++ Associate in Science**

Computer Security and Data Analysis

- **Foundations of Computer Security Certificate**
- **Network Security Advanced Certificate**
- **Computer Systems Security Associate in Applied Science**

Systems Development and Administration.

- **Linux/Unix Systems I Certificate**

Related Options

Computer Science Transfer AS Degree, Information Systems Transfer AS Degree, Mathematics and Computer Science AS Degree– See Transfer and University Parallel Programs

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts– $73,250*

Computer Programmers–$70,940*

Java Developers–The middle 50 percent earn between $66,702 and $89,122**

Computer Systems Analysts–$77,080*

Network and Computer Systems Administrators–$67,710*

School of Music and Performing Arts

Students learn basic creative and performance skills in music, drama and dance and how they are applied in a professional setting. Whether you are exploring your own talents, coordinating the talents of others, or practicing the techniques you will need to make a living at your craft, the School of Music and Performing Arts provides the fundamentals you need.

Music and Performing Arts≠≠≠

- **Music Production/Engineering Certificate**

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Musicians and Singers–$22.36/hr*

Sound Engineering Technicians–$46,370*

What is the National Median Salary?

CareerFocus uses salary information from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and Salary.com unless noted otherwise. These figures represent the national midpoint earnings for each job description. This means that half the U.S. employees surveyed in a particular occupation earn less than this figure and half earn more.

Individual salaries vary based on the region, the size of the employer and the employee's education, experience and skill level. You can research your potential salary at *Salary.com*, The Occupational Outlook Handbook at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website (*www.bls.gov*) or by checking with professional organizations and local employers.

*Salaries are based on most current data available as of June 2010. Earnings vary based on experience, education and location. *From the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics most current Occupational Employment Statistics (May 2009). **From Salary.com.*

School of Nursing and Health Sciences

Find your place in the growing field of healthcare. Whether your interest lies in the traditional field of nursing or the physical therapist assistant program, the School of Nursing and Health Sciences provides a variety programs designed to prepare students for entry-level positions in dental assisting, pharmacy technology, radiography, physical therapist assistant, nursing assistant or professional nursing.

Dental Assisting
- Dental Assisting Certificate

Health Care Foundations
- Health Care Foundations Certificate

Nursing
- Nursing Assistant Skills Training Certificate of Completion
- Nursing Transfer EMU School of Nursing Associate in Applied Science
- Nursing Transfer U-M School of Nursing Associate in Applied Science
- Registered Nursing Associate in Applied Science

Pharmacy Technology
- Pharmacy Technology Certificate

Physical Therapist Assistant
- Physical Therapist Assistant Associate in Applied Science

Radiography
- Radiography Associate in Applied Science

Related Options

Management Supervision Advanced Certificate–See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies

Management Supervision Associate in Applied Science– See School of Business and Entrepreneurial Studies

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Dental Assistants– $33,230*

Nursing Aides, Orderlies or Attendants–$24,040*

Registered Nurses–$63,750*

Pharmacy Aides–$20,800*

Physical Therapist Assistants–$48,290*

Radiologic Technologists and Technicians–$53,240*

School of Professional Communication

We live in an age of communication. The School of Professional Communication is here to serve those who want to develop skills in radio broadcast, technical writing or in print and online journalism.

Broadcast Arts
- Broadcast Arts Associate in Art

Professional Writing
- Technical Writing Associate in Science Degree
- Journalism Associate in Arts Degree
- Technical Writing Certificate
- Technical Writing Associate in Arts Degree

Planning to transfer? Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

National Median Salaries

Radio and Television Announcers–$27,520*

Reporters and Correspondents –$34,360*

Technical Writers–$62,730*

Writers and Authors–$53,900*

Transfer and University Parallel Programs

If your goal is to continue your education toward a baccalaureate degree, then the Transfer and University Parallel program is the track for you. Complete the first two years of study in a supportive environment with small classes and personal attention.

Business
- Business Associate in Art

Computer Science
- Math and Science Associate in Science
- Programming Java Associate in Science
- Information Systems: Programming in C++ Associate in Science

Criminal Justice
- Criminal Justice Associate in Art

Education
- Elementary Education Associate in Art
- Secondary Education Associate in Art

Exercise Science
- Exercise Science Associate in Science

Internet Professional
- Internet Professional Associate in Art

Liberal Arts Transfer
- Liberal Arts Transfer Associate in Art

Math and Science
- Environmental Science Associate in Science
- General Studies in Math and Natural Science Associate in Science
- Math and Science-Math Concentration Associate in Science
- Pre-Engineering/Physics Associate in Science
- Pre-Medicine/Biology Associate in Science
- Pre-Medicine/Chemistry Associate in Science

Social Work
- Human Services Associate in Art

Talk to a WCC counselor about the College's wide range of transfer and articulation agreements with four-year institutions.

Wholesale and Retail Buyers–$48,650*

Administrative Services Managers–$75,520*

Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle and Secondary School Teachers–from $47,830 to $52,200*

Engineers–from $68,730 to $108,020*

Physicians or Surgeons–from $152,240 to over $200,000*

Social Workers–from $38,200 to $49,420*

*Salaries are based on most current data available as of June 2010. Earnings vary based on experience, education and location. *From the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics most current Occupational Employment Statistics (May 2009). **From Salary.com.*

Learn from the best

RosettaStone®

Language Courses at WCC

31 languages available

RosettaStone is one of the most popular language immersion products on the market. You'll acquire new language skills easily and naturally by pairing words with images. Using interactive software, you'll learn to pronounce new words and phrases and understand their meaning – without memorizing. Soon you'll be speaking a whole new language!

- Convenient self-paced program fits your busy schedule
- Interactive software allows you to learn and practice completely online
- Compatible with Windows and Mac operating system

For more information, go to *wccnet.edu/lifelong-learning* and search Languages.

LifeLong Learning @WCC
Personal Enrichment. Professional Development.

Back by popular demand!

TEENS ON CAMPUS

Totally for Teens–entering grades 6–12

Who knew that learning could be so much fun? 20 exciting classes for teens only. You can discover something interesting, brush up on your skills, meet new people and have a great time. This program was so successful, we're offering it again!

You can pick from classes in:

Visual and studio arts – photography, drawing, painting, pottery, jewelry making
Music and theater – acting, guitar, rock band
Writing – graphic novel, playwriting
Cooking – brownies, donuts, cookies, cakes, pizza
Adventure – geocaching
"Real life" skills – babysitting, money management

Teens on Campus is for teens entering grades 6–12 unless otherwise noted.

Information/Registration
www.wccnet.edu/teensoncampus

REGISTRATION BEGINS MARCH 28

Teens on Campus
Washtenaw Community College

2011 WCC Foundation Annual Jerry Jernigan Memorial Golf Outing

August 22

Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center

Washtenaw County

WCC Foundation Drive for Education

www.wccnet.edu/foundation

To sponsor or play call 734-973-3360

WCC Foundation

Washtenaw Community College

JOB FAIR

and Nonprofit Showcase

Tuesday
MARCH 22
1 – 4 p.m. Morris Lawrence Building on the WCC campus

- 60 employers hiring for open positions
- 20 nonprofit organizations with information about the services and resources they provide

FREE
Open to the public

For more information contact WCC's Employment Services Center 734-677-5155

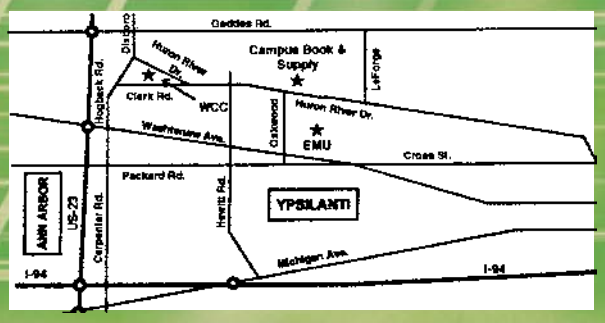
Find a list of participating employers at:
www.wccnet.edu/studentservices/otherservices/advising/counseling/emp_jobfair.php

Focus on Textbooks (but spend less $!)

Shop at Campus Book and Supply

Textbooks for all classes at Washtenaw Community College and Eastern Michigan University

1078 Huron River Drive, Ypsilanti
Eastern Plaza, next to McDonalds (only minutes from WCC)



- Academically priced full-version software with ID
- Reference books, Study aids
- Daily student book buy back
- College clothing, gifts, cards

CAMPUS BOOK & SUPPLY

734-485-2369
www.campusbooksupply.com

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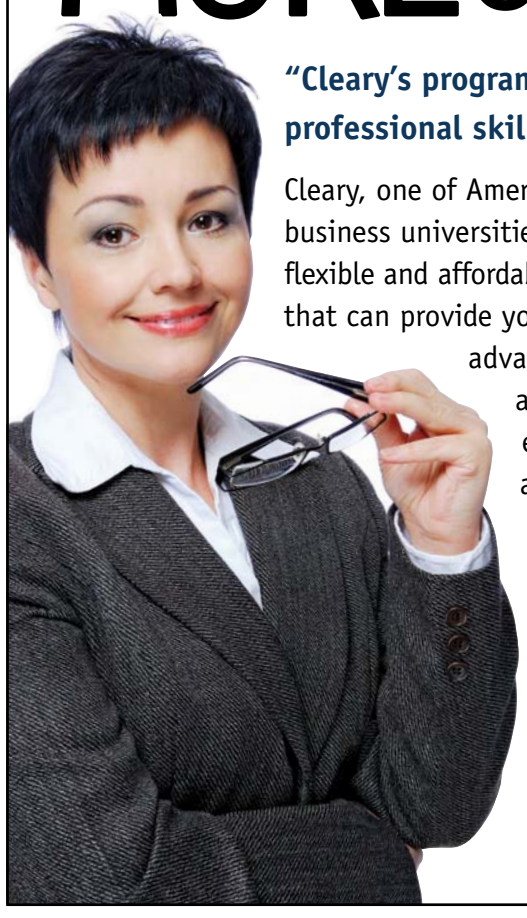

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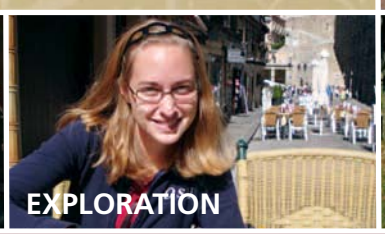

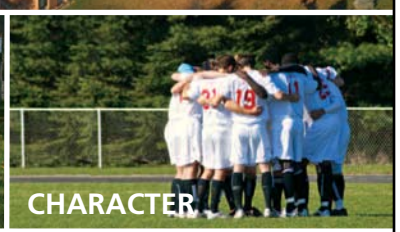

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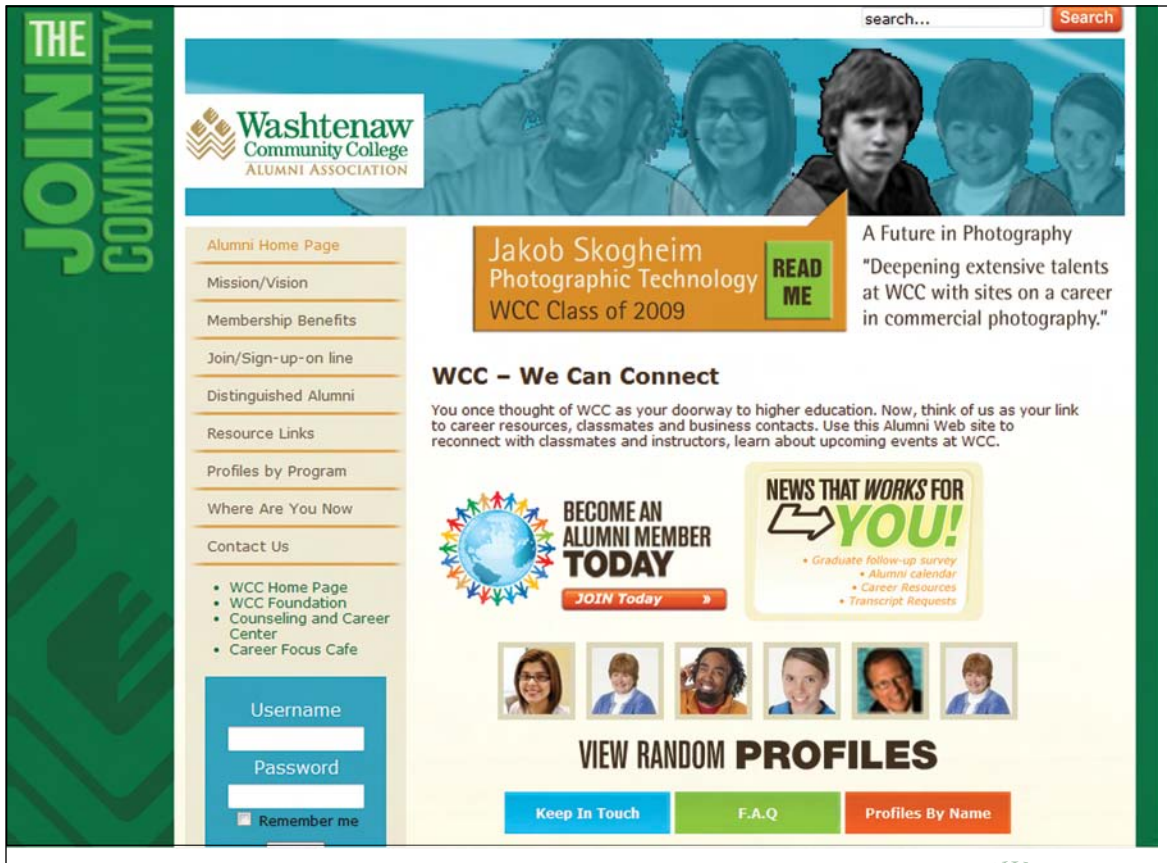


New WCC Alumni Association Website

alumni.wccnet.edu

- Connect with classmates.
- Take advantage of career counseling and job fairs.
- Check out new WCC programs and classes.
- Enjoy alumni perks like discounted event tickets and much more.

Distinguished Alumnus Award

This annual award recognizes WCC alumni who have made significant contributions in their fields and in the community.

To learn more about the award, including eligibility criteria, and to get an online application form, go to *alumni.wccnet.edu*.

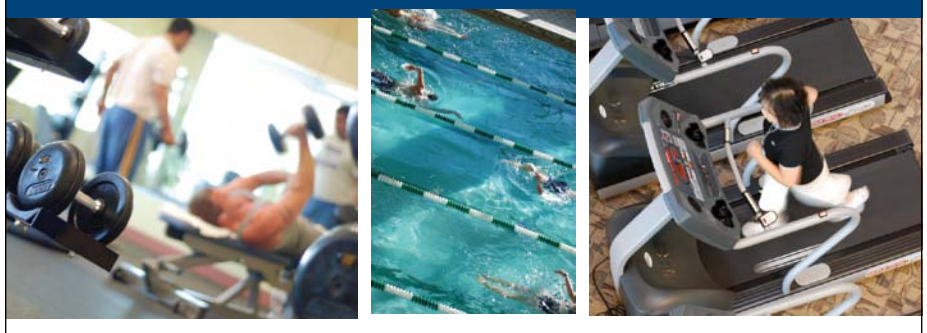
WCC *Foundation*

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES • 25 YEARS

For more information call **734-973-3665**
or visit ***wccnet.edu/foundation***

Visit the new WCC Alumni Association website at ***alumni.wccnet.edu*** to learn more!

LIVE LIFE TO THE FITTEST



The Health & Fitness Center at Washtenaw Community College

You'll find a 75,000 sq. ft. facility with open spaces and spectacular views. It's beautiful. It's friendly. It's a great place to get healthy and fit.

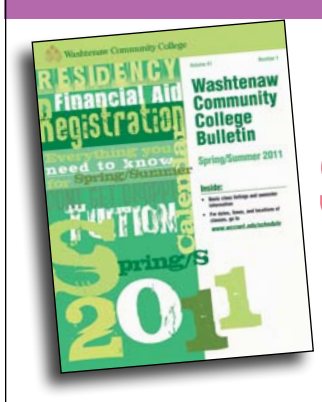
- Free health and fitness classes including yoga, Pilates and spinning
- A walking/jogging track
- Free weights, resistance and cardiovascular training equipment
- A large lap pool and a warm therapeutic pool with wheelchair access
- Spacious locker rooms with whirlpools, steam, sauna and massage
- Free parking...and much more!

"The Health & Fitness Center is a true community resource. From the variety of free classes offered every day, to the certified personal trainers, to the on-site childcare, this center meets all my fitness needs."
Kim, Ann Arbor

Discounts available for groups of 5 or more people.
For more information, or to join, call (734) 975-9950 or visit www.wccfitness.org

The Health & Fitness Center
AT WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WCC SPRING/SUMMER 2011



Registration Starts March 23

for new students

Classes start May 9, May 31 and June 15

Don't Get Dropped!

Pay by April 14 to keep your seat
Pay the day of registration after April 14

Check out traditional, weekend, blended and online classes

For dates, times, and locations of classes
Available online only: go to
www.wccnet.edu/schedule

Washtenaw Community College

CareerFocus
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FIVE REASONS TO TAKE ONLINE COURSES AT WCC

VARIETY

Nearly 40 online and blended classes offered this spring/summer semester, ranging from general education to program-specific courses.

QUALITY

Classes are designed to accommodate multiple learning styles, and students do well academically. Online students must be well organized, motivated, and comfortable using computer technology.

COST SAVINGS

Students beat high gas prices when they don't have to come to class every day.

FLEXIBILITY

Students choose fully online or blended courses. Some like complete independence; others like weekly support and guidance from instructors and fellow students.

CONVENIENCE

Study where you want, when you want. Both online and blended classes work for families, people with jobs, or those who like the freedom of planning their own study schedule.

NO MATTER WHAT YOUR SITUATION, WCC WILL MAKE COLLEGE WORK FOR YOU.

Mix and match these scheduling options to fit your unique lifestyle.

BLENDED

The perfect balance – online and on campus, in most cases you'll meet in class only once a week.

TRADITIONAL

Immerse yourself in the familiar world of weekday classes.

ONLINE

Experience a 100% interactive online learning experience from the comfort of your home.

WEEKEND

We've rearranged class times to maximize your Saturday and Sunday schedule.

EXTENSION

WCC brings college to you in Brighton, Hartland and Dexter.

EVENING

Make every hour count. Your day goes well beyond 5 p.m., so do your study options.

Washtenaw Community College

For more information, call 734-973-3543 or visit www.wccnet.edu/classes